



# Missouri Annual Crop Summary

Missouri Field Office • 601 Business Loop 70 West, Ste 240 • Columbia, MO 65203  
573-876-0950 • [www.nass.usda.gov/mo](http://www.nass.usda.gov/mo)

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## 2008 Crops, United States

A series of low-pressure areas crossing the Midwest brought about the fifth wettest spring (March-May) in 114 years. Major flooding first took place in March, when monthly precipitation exceeded 200 percent of normal from Ohio to Missouri and on to Texas. In April, wet conditions delayed summer crop planting and emergence. By month's end, corn growers had planted only 10 percent of the Nation's intended acreage, 25 points behind the normal pace. May downpours continued to delay corn and soybean planting. Rainfall eased drought in the High Plains region while drought continued to adversely affect winter wheat from eastern Colorado and western Kansas southward. By month's end, only 74 percent of the corn crop had emerged, 15 points behind the 5-year average. Delays in small grains emergence were evident in every State, but rice emergence was ahead of the normal pace and cotton planting was nearly complete.

The wet spring was followed by excessive rainfall again in June, causing record flooding. Several Mississippi River tributaries rose to record levels on June 7, and floods affected parts of the Mississippi River basin from June 7-21. Despite flooding in the eastern Corn Belt, 61 percent of corn acreage was rated good to excellent on June 29. Near normal temperatures during July provided nearly ideal conditions for Midwestern corn and soybeans entering reproductive stages of development. Small grain harvests were behind the 5-year averages. An August dry spell adversely affected Midwestern soybeans and late-developing corn. Rainfall totals were less than 25 percent of normal at several Midwestern locations. However, lack of sustained high temperatures benefited crop prospects, with June-August temperatures averaging near normal in the Ohio Valley and slightly below normal over the rest of the Midwest.

September rainfall produced by Hurricanes Gustav and Ike was followed by heavy October precipitation, soaking much of the Nation's mid-section and hampering fieldwork. The Midwestern row crop harvest was significantly delayed. Despite drier-than-normal November weather in many winter wheat-producing areas, conditions remained mostly favorable as the crop began to slip into dormancy. Harvesting of cotton and sorghum advanced on the Plains, while the much-delayed corn harvest neared completion by month's end across the northern and western Corn Belt.

**Soybeans:** Production in 2008 totaled 2.96 billion bushels, up 11 percent from 2007. U.S. production is the fourth largest on record. The average yield per acre is estimated at 39.6 bushels, 2.1 bushels below last year's yield. Harvested area is up 16 percent from 2007, to a record 74.6 million acres.

**Corn:** Production in 2008 is estimated at 12.1 billion bushels, 7 percent below last year's record high, but still the second largest on record. The average U.S. grain yield is estimated at 153.9 bushels per acre, 3.2 bushels above 2007 and the second highest on record, behind 2004.

**Wheat:** Production totals 2.50 billion bushels in 2008, up 21 percent from 2007. Grain area is 55.7 million acres, up 9 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is 44.9 bushels per acre, up 4.4 bushels from last year.

**Sorghum:** Grain production in 2008 is estimated at 472 million bushels, 5 percent below 2007. Planted area is estimated at 8.28 million acres, up 7 percent from last year, and area harvested for grain, at 7.27 million acres, is up 7 percent from 2007. Average grain yield, at 65.0 bushels per acre, is down 8.2 bushels from last year.

**Cotton:** All cotton production is estimated at 13.0 million 480-pound bales, down 32 percent from 2007. The U.S. yield is estimated at 810 pounds per acre, down 69 pounds from last year's record high. Harvested area, at 7.73 million acres, is down 26 percent from last year.

**Rice:** Production in 2008 is estimated at 204 million cwt, up 3 percent from 2007. Planted area is estimated at 3.00 million acres, up 8 percent from 2007. Area for harvest, at 2.98 million acres, is up 8 percent from 2007. The average yield for all U.S. rice is estimated at 6,846 pounds per acre, 373 pounds below the 2007 record yield of 7,219 pounds per acre.

**Hay:** Production of dry hay for 2008 is estimated at 146 million tons, down 1 percent from the 2007 total. Area harvested, at 60.1 million acres, is down 2 percent from 2007. The average yield, at 2.43 tons per acre, is nearly the same as last year's yield of 2.41.

## 2008 Crops, Missouri

The spring season was very wet and cool. Heavy March rains caused minor flood damage to some pastures and wheat fields and delayed the start of field operations throughout the state. Consistent rains during April kept corn planting well behind normal, while below-normal temperatures delayed pasture growth. Corn planting was 8 percent complete as of April 27, nearly 4 weeks behind normal. Virtually no sorghum or soybeans had been planted. Damp and cool conditions continued into May with the exception of the Bootheel, where drier weather allowed corn, cotton, and sorghum planting to accelerate markedly. Farmers used a few stretches of dry weather to pick up the planting pace during the second half of the month, but heavy rains returned near month's end to again halt fieldwork. Corn planting and emergence ended the month over 3 weeks behind normal, while soybean planting averaged 2 weeks late. Young corn plants in some areas were struggling in cool field conditions. Alfalfa and other hay cuttings were about 1 week behind normal.

After the wet spring, even heavier rains fell in June. Floodwaters covered thousands of acres along the Mississippi River. Minor flooding was also a problem across northern, west-central, and southwestern areas, where monthly rainfall totals of 8 to 15 inches were common. In contrast, dryness was creeping into the southeastern third of the state. June rainfall averaged 7.05 inches compared with the 30-year average of 4.19 inches. As of June 29, 8 percent of the corn crop had yet to emerge, while soybean planting and emergence were over 3 weeks behind average. Only 26 percent of intended soybean acres were planted in the Southwest district. July turned drier, allowing farmers to complete late soybean planting and catch up on winter wheat harvesting. Temperatures warmed to near normal levels, promoting crop growth. However, corn silking, at 76 percent, and soybean blooming, at 28 percent, were still over 2 weeks behind normal as of July 27. August rainfall was below normal in most areas, but normal to below normal temperatures and adequate subsoil moisture kept row crop conditions stable. By month's end, the good to excellent rating was 47 percent for corn and 42 percent for soybeans. Rice heading was near the normal pace with nearly the entire crop in good to excellent condition. Cotton boll opening was 1 week behind normal at 16 percent.

The first half of September was dominated by rains from Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Heavy rains once again flooded rivers and tributaries in some parts of the state, most prominently in the northeast district. Abundant moisture, cool temperatures, and the effects of late planting significantly slowed the maturation of row crops, limiting the benefits of dry harvesting weather

that appeared in late September and into the first half of October. Wet weather returned later in October, keeping harvest and wheat planting well behind normal. Rice harvest finished in early November, with cotton done soon thereafter. Cotton harvest was notable for finishing well ahead of normal. Farmers remained about 1 month behind normal with the corn harvest during November, while soybean and milo harvests were 1 to 2 weeks behind normal. As of November 23, 12 percent of the corn crop, 9 percent of soybeans, and 11 percent of sorghum were still in the field; meanwhile, wheat planting had caught up to the normal pace of 93 percent.

**Missouri soybean** production totaled 191 million bushels in 2008, up 9 percent from the 2007 crop and the third largest on record. Farmers harvested 5.03 million of the 5.20 million acres planted, up 11 percent from 2007. The state yield averaged 38 bushels per acre, one-half bushel above last year. Value of production was estimated at \$1.72 billion, down 3 percent from last year.

**Corn** production in **Missouri** during 2008 totaled 382 million bushels, 17 percent below a year earlier. Yields averaged 144 bushels per acre, up 4 bushels from the 2007 yield and the second largest on record. Corn for grain was produced from 2.65 million harvested acres out of 2.80 million planted acres. Silage was cut on 50,000 acres, producing 700,000 tons. Excessive moisture led to abandonment of 100,000 acres compared with 110,000 acres a year earlier. Value of the crop was \$1.53 billion, down 20 percent from 2007.

**Missouri** produced 55.7 million bushels of **winter wheat** in 2008, up 47 percent from 2007. Farmers planted 1.25 million acres, harvesting 1.16 million for grain. Yield of 48 bushels per acre was 5 bushels above 2007. The crop was valued at \$309 million, 58 percent above last year.

**Missouri grain sorghum** production totaled 7.76 million bushels, down 19 percent from 2007 and the lowest production since 1956. Planted acreage, at 90,000 is the lowest on record. Sorghum for grain was harvested on 80,000 acres. Average yield for the State was 97 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel per acre from 2007. Value of production was estimated at \$29.8 million, down 17 percent from 2007.

**Missouri cotton** production was estimated at 670,000 bales, 12 percent below 2007. The state yield is estimated at a record 1061 pounds per acre, 93 pounds higher than last year, and 7 pounds above the previous record in 2004. Planted acreage of 306,000 acres is 19 percent below last year and the lowest since 1990. Farmers harvested 303,000 acres.

**Missouri rice** production during 2008 totaled 13.2 million cwt, 7 percent above last year's crop. Yield was estimated 6,620 pounds per acre, 4 percent below last year's record yield. Farmers harvested 199,000 of the 200,000 planted acres. Value of production came in at \$204 million, 40 percent above 2007.

**Tobacco** production for 2008 totaled 3.36 million pounds, down 10 percent from last year. The State yield of 2,240 pounds was 90 pounds less than a year earlier. Missouri farmers harvested 1,500 acres of tobacco, 100 acres less than the previous year. Value of production was \$5.88 million, 4 percent below 2007.

Commercial **potato** production in **Missouri** for 2008 totaled 1.24 million cwt, 38 percent below the 2007 production. The 6,500 acres harvested produced a yield of 190 cwt, down 110 cwt from last year. There were

7,200 acres planted, 400 acres above a year earlier. Value of production was \$9.1 million, down 28 percent from a year earlier.

**Missouri oat** production in 2008 totaled 330,000 bushels, 18 percent smaller than the 2007 crop and the lowest production on record. There were 15,000 planted acres with 6,000 harvested for grain, both the lowest on record. The State oat yield averaged 55 bushels per acre, 5 bushels above the 2007 average. The value of the crop was estimated at \$1.29 million, up 13 percent from last year.

**Hay** production in **Missouri** totaled 8.82 million tons, 17 percent above the 2007 production. Yields averaged 2.10 tons per acre, compared with 1.86 tons per acres a year earlier. Harvested area of all hay was 4.20 million acres. The 2008 hay crop was valued at \$844 million, 13 percent above 2007.

**Missouri Crop Production, 2007-2008**

Crop	Unit	Acres Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
		2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
		<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>Thousands</i>	
Corn for Grain	bu	3,270	2,650	140.0	144.0	457,800	381,600
Corn for Silage	ton	70	50	15.0	14.0	1,050	700
Sorghum for Grain	bu	100	80	96.0	97.0	9,600	7,760
Sorghum for Silage	ton	5	4	13.0	9.0	65	36
Soybeans	bu	4,670	5,030	37.5	38.0	175,125	191,140
Winter Wheat	bu	880	1,160	43.0	48.0	37,840	55,680
Oats	bu	8	6	50.0	55.0	400	330
All Rice <sup>1/</sup>	cwt	178	199	6,900	6,620	12,279	13,173
Cotton <sup>2/</sup>	lb	379	303	968	1,061	764	670
Cottonseed	ton	---	---	---	---	276	229
Tobacco	lb	1.6	1.5	2,330	2,240	3,728	3,360
All Hay	ton	4,050	4,200	1.9	2.1	7,528	8,820
Alfalfa Hay	ton	400	350	2.9	3.2	1,140	1,120
Other Hay	ton	3,650	3,850	1.8	2.0	6,388	7,700

1/ Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight.

2/ Yield in pounds, production in 480 lb. bales.

**Value of Missouri Crop Production, 2007-2008**

Crop	Unit	Average Value Per Unit		Value of Production	
		2007	2008	2007	2008
		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>Thousand Dollars</i>	
Corn for Grain	bu	4.17	4.00	1,909,026	1,526,400
Grain Sorghum	cwt	6.68	6.85	35,912	29,767
Soybeans	bu	10.10	9.00	1,768,763	1,720,260
Winter Wheat	bu	5.17	5.55	195,633	309,024
Oats	bu	2.85	3.90	1,140	1,287
All Rice	cwt	11.90	15.50	146,120	204,182
All Hay	ton	110.00	103.00	746,372	844,130
Alfalfa Hay	ton	156.00	159.00	177,840	178,080
Other Hay	ton	89.00	86.50	568,532	666,050
Cotton	lb	0.574	0.537	210,497	172,699
Cottonseed	ton	160	255	44,160	58,395
Tobacco	lb	1.65	1.75	6,151	5,880
<b>Total Crops</b>	---	---	---	5,810,146	5,716,154

### United States Crop Production, 2007-2008

Crop	Unit	Acres Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
		2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
		<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
Corn for Grain	bu	86,520	78,640	150.7	153.9	13,037.9	12,101.2
Corn for Silage	ton	6,060	5,965	17.5	18.7	106.2	111.6
Sorghum for Grain	bu	6,792	7,271	73.2	65.0	497.4	472.3
Sorghum for Silage	ton	392	408	13.4	13.8	5.2	5.6
Soybeans	bu	64,146	74,641	41.7	39.6	2,677.1	2,959.2
Winter Wheat	bu	35,938	39,614	41.7	47.2	1,499.2	1,868.0
Oats	bu	1,504	1,395	60.1	63.5	90.4	88.6
All Rice <sup>1/</sup>	cwt	2,748	2,976	7,219	6,846	198.4	203.7
Cotton <sup>2/</sup>	lb	10,489	7,728	879	810	19.2	13.0
Cottonseed	ton	---	---	---	---	6.6	4.4
Tobacco	lb	1,600	1,500	2,330	2,240	3.7	3.4
All Hay	ton	61,006	60,062	2.4	2.4	146.9	145.7
Alfalfa Hay	ton	21,126	20,980	3.3	3.3	69.9	69.6
Other Hay	ton	39,880	39,082	1.9	1.9	77.0	76.1

<sup>1/</sup> Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight.

<sup>2/</sup> Yield in pounds, production in 480 lb. bales.

### Value of United States Crop Production, 2007-2008

Crop	Unit	Average Value Per Unit		Value of Production	
		2007	2008	2007	2008
		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>Million Dollars</i>	
Corn for Grain	bu	4.20	3.90	54,667	47,378
Grain Sorghum	cwt	7.28	5.70	1,925	1,682
Soybeans	bu	10.10	9.25	26,974	27,399
Winter Wheat	bu	6.13	6.60	9,076	11,951
Oats	bu	2.63	3.10	247	262
All Rice	cwt	12.80	16.50	2,601	3,391
All Hay	ton	128.00	157.00	16,842	18,777
Alfalfa Hay	ton	138.00	172.00	8,855	10,806
Other Hay	ton	110.00	121.00	7,987	7,971
Cotton	lb	0.593	0.552	5,249	3,296
Cottonseed	ton	162.00	223.00	1,070	992
Tobacco	lb	1.693	1.865	1,329	1,486
<b>Total Crops</b>	---			384,219	397,369

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USDA NASS, Missouri Field Office  
Agricultural Statistician  
Post Office Box L  
Columbia MO 65205



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